

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 26671 01 OF 02 082114Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-06

AF-04 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 OIC-02 L-02

/063 W

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P R 082101Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4058

INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 26671

NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: UNESCO 18TH GEN. CONF. US AND CANADA EURO-
PEAN REGIONAL ENTRY

REF: PARIS 26215

1. FOLLOWING IS EXPLANATION OF US "YES" VOTE ON QUESTION OF USSR MEMBERSHIP IN "ASIA AND OCEANIA" REGIONAL GROUP IN UNESCO AND WHY US DID NOT ABSTAIN.
2. VOTE WAS BASED ON AMENDMENT TO FRENCH DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH IN ORIGINAL TEXT DID NOT PROVIDE FOR REGIONAL ATTRIBUTION FOR CANADA, ISRAEL, US AND USSR. INDIVIDUAL AMENDMENTS, ADDING EACH OF THESE COUNTRIES TO ORIGINAL FRENCH DR WERE INTRODUCED AND VOTED ON, SEPARATELY COUNTRY BY COUNTRY. TALLY REPORTED BY REFTEL
3. AMENDMENT CONCERNING USSR REFERRED TO "EUROPE/ASIA ONE ONE LINE AND NOT REPEAT NOT BY TWO SEPARATE GROUPS. HENCE, HAD US ABSTAINED, WE WOULD IN EFFECT HAVE ABSTAINED

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PAGE 02 PARIS 26671 01 OF 02 082114Z

ED ON USSR IN EUROPEAN REGION. UNDER THESE PECULIAR

PROCEDURAL CIRCUMSTANCES US VOTED YES FOR RUSSIA'S ENTRY INTO "EUROPE/ASIA AND OCEANIA."

4. FURTHER, ALL OF SOVIET BLOC VOTED YES ON US ENTRY TO EUR GROUP, AND ALL WEST EUROPEAN AND CANADA ALSO VOTED YES ON USSR ITEM.

5. SOVIET HAD SPECIFICALLY ASKED US SUPPORT AND IN RETURN PROMISED ACTIVE SUPPORT THEIR COUNTRIES. IN FACT, SOVIET SPOKE IN DEBATE IN SUCH A WAY AS TO CLEARLY INDICATE SUPPORT OF US INTO EUR REGION. THIS WAS PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT AS ABILITY SWING VITAL LDC VOTES DEPENDED UPON CLAIM THAT US HAD SUPPORT OF MAJORITY OF COUNTRIES OF REGION. AS FRANCE, GREECE, CYPRUS, TURKEY AND ALBANIA NOT IN SUPPORT OF US ENTRY IT WAS VITAL THAT THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SUPPORT.

6. AN ABSTENTION AFTER SOVIET SUPPORT AND THEIR VOTE OUR FAVOR WOULD HAVE ANGERED THEM AND CERTAINLY IMPAIRED RELATIONS AND COOPERATION NOT ONLY ON THIS ISSUE BUT ON MANY OTHER MATTERS.

7. REGIONAL ISSUE IS NOT YET CONCLUDED. VOTE WAS IN PROGRAM COMMISSION AND MUST NOW GO TO PLENARY FOR FINAL APPROVAL. ORDINARILY THIS IS ROUTINE. HOWEVER, DUE TO UNUSUAL METHOD OF AMENDMENT WHICH HAD TO BE USED DURING HEATED, LONG AND CONFUSED DEBATE, FRENCH HAVE JUST NOW INDICATED THEY INTEND TO CHALLENGE THE VOTE IN PLENARY CHALLENGE WILL BE BASED ON FACT FRENCH AMENDMENT LEFT OUT US AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHILE PUTTING IN ALL NEW MEMBERS OF UNESCO SINCE 1964 WHICH HAD NOT FORMALLY BEEN VOTED INTO

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PAGE 01 PARIS 26671 02 OF 02 082117Z

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REGIONS. HAD THIS COME TO A VOTE IT WOULD LIKELY HAVE PASSED AS LDC'S WERE FULLY COVERED. TACTIC OF AMENDING FRENCH RESOLUTION, WHICH UNDER RULES WOULD HAVE BEEN VOTED FIRST, RESORTED TO AND CHALLENGED. LEGAL ADVISER RULED THAT AMENDMENT TO INSERT US AND OTHER THREE WHO FOLLOWED OUR LEAD WAS INADMISSABLE AS ATTEMPTED TO ADD TO AMENDMENT WHICH HAD BEEN DESIGNED TO DELETE. IN OTHER WORDS, CANNOT PUT BACK BY AMENDMENT TO AN AMENDMENT THAT WHICH THE AMENDMENT WAS DESIGNED TO DELETE. THIS RULING WAS OVERRULED BY THE CHAIRMAN, WHO IS CANADIAN, AND A VOTE TAKEN ON A CHALLENGE TO THE RULE OF THE CHAIR. THE CHAIR WAS UPHELD AND THIS SET THE STAGE FOR THE COUNTRY BY COUNTRY VOTE THAT FOLLOWED. IN VIEW PERM DEL. SOVIET SUPPORT WAS VITAL INSURE SUCCESS AND CANADA AGREED. PERM REP FULLY EXPLAINED THIS TO FRIENDLY ASIAN DELEGATIONS, PARTICULARLY JAPANESE AND THEY UNDERSTOOD OUR DILEMMA. HAD VOTE BEEN SIMPLE, HIS COUNTRY ABSTENSION MAY HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE, BUT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES, PARTICULARLY SINCE ISSUE IS STILL ALIVE, PERM REP AFTER CONSULTING CHAIRMAN AND OTHER MEMBERS OF DELEGATION, INCLUDING DEPT. UNESCO OFFICER FELT "YES" VOTE FOR SOVIET WAS COURSE OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 PARIS 26671 02 OF 02 082117Z

ACTION MOST OUR INTEREST.

8. FYI: ON VOTE LAST NIGHT ON ENTIRE RESOLUTION IT WAS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY WITH FRANCE ABSTAINING, CHINA VOTED FOR PASSAGE OF THE FINAL RESOLUTION.
STONE

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